GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1366
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2015
Purchase of Tobacco by STC
Reddy Shri Ch. Malla

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether the State Trading Corporation (STC) has not purchased tobacco from the farmers of Andhra Pradesh for the past eight months;

b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

c) whether the minimum support price for tobacco is very low and if so, the reasons therefor; and

d) the steps taken by the Government to persuade STC to purchase tobacco from the farmers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a)&(b) Yes, Madam. STC has not purchased tobacco from the farmers of Andhra Pradesh for the past eight months, as no directive was issued by the Government for the same.
(c) There is no Minimum Support Price declared by Government of India for tobacco since 2008-09.
(d) No decision was taken for actual procurement of tobacco by the Government. Instead, a decision was taken to compensate the registered growers of Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco in the State of Andhra Pradesh for identified low grade varieties.

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